

Footprints

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Copy by 15th of month, please..



*Knightwick Almshouses
1890*

A view of the Knightwick Almshouse freshly built and before the "Nurse's" House was added above.

Knightwick Almshouses

A vacancy will be arising in the Knightwick Almshouses in the near future.

Any person interested, either for themselves, or for an elderly relative they wish to have living nearer, should apply to :-

Mrs C.B. Leach, (Hon. Clerk to the Trustees) tel.: (01886) 821331

Monthly musings from Rev Anne (Team Rector)

On a recent visit to a park I came across the following statements inscribed onto small plaques and 'planted' in flowerbeds next to the path....

"We do not have wi-fi talk to each other, pretend it is 1995" and on another plaque *"Beware of smartphone zombies"* (with an engraved simple picture of mother, father and child with heads down).

A profound reflection on the world in which we are in danger of the mobile smart phone, along with instant access to the internet, taking over from in-person human interaction.

"Not all classrooms have four walls." This statement reminded me of one of my favourite sayings – "everyday is a school day." In keeping our minds (and hearts) open to learning our daily lives are enriched, not only in acquiring factual physical knowledge but allowing ourselves to grow in emotional and spiritual ways which leads me on to the next statement that 'spoke' to me. *"Take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism."*

Perhaps one of the hardest lessons in life is realising that none of us is perfect as we are all human in our thoughts and actions. For many of us being criticised is a difficult pill to swallow. Learning resilience is a tough call yet it is a value that is fundamental in coping with the ups and downs of our earthly journey. After all - *"Of all the paths you take in life, make sure a few of them are dirt"*

A simple fact of life. Not all our paths are paved with gold bringing joy and happiness. Many of them are hard work as we work our way through periods of anxiety, sickness, sorrow and so many other difficult times. Yet we cannot have joy without sorrow, peace without conflict, love without indifference and hope without despair. So - *"Where flowers bloom so does hope"*, reminds me of the hymn which contains the following sentiments...

Think of a world without any flowers and trees.

A sky without any sunshine, the air without any breeze.

Think of a world without any animals, a field without any herd,

A stream without any fishes, a dawn without any birds.

Think of a world without any people, a street with no one living there,

A town without any houses. No one to love and nobody to care.

We thank you, Lord, for flowers, trees and sunshine, for all living creatures, and families and friendships and praise your holy name.

This final statement was, for me, the most profound..

"If you truly love nature, you will find beauty everywhere"

Vincent Van Gogh

How true but if we substitute the word 'nature' with 'God'. It helps those of us with faith in a God of transforming power who is always there, even in the days when we find the going tough, in the sunsets, the flowers, the compassion of humankind if we open our hearts and minds to look around. The light shining in the darkness bringing hope, peace, joy and love into our lives.

Thank you God and we praise your Holy name.

With blessings

Rev Anne

Geraldine Cooper (Chaplin) (1941 – 2025)

At a memorial service last Saturday, a full church said a fond farewell to Gerry. One of the last of the few remaining people who were raised in Knightwick, having arrived at the age of 3.

Her life had a major impact on many people, from her schooldays leading on into Guiding and Young Farmers, on into her work as a pharmacist. And eventually in retirement keeping people together through various "natter" groups and reunions, with a "good" use of social media to maintain connections across the globe.

As well as her friends, her big love was for Knightwick, especially the Chapel, where over the years she and Brian organized work parties to keep it clean and usable, and so "used." We had one ongoing area of conflict – "how tidy to keep the chapel-yard - Manicured versus Natural." I hope we have achieved a balance over the years. One other passion was her hobby of photography, taking good pictures and then sharing them with her many friends and acquaintances in the form of packs of cards and envelopes, I guess designed to encourage us to keep in postal contact with the network of her friends. As she would say :“We’re none of us getting any younger, so make the most of the friendships that we have got !”

Events Diary - February 2026

- 1st Sun 9.00am Holy Communion - Cotheridge Church
10.30am Worship for All - Broadwas Church
- 2nd Mon 11.00am Royal British Legion meeting at Talbot Hotel
- 5th Thurs 12 - 2pm Lunch in Company (LinC) - Martley Village Hall
- 8th Sun 3.00pm Evening Worship - Knightwick Chapel
- 11th Wed 10.15am Holy Communion at Heaton House
7.00pm Broadwas & Cotheridge Parish Council - Vill. Hall
- 12th Thurs 2.30-4pm Pastoral Tea Party - Martley Memorial Hall
- 15th Sun 10.00am Café Church - St Peters, Martley
10.30am Holy Communion - Broadwas Church
- 18th Wed 10.15am Ash Wednesday Benefice Service at Heaton House
- 22nd Sun 10.30am Morning Worship - Broadwas Church
- 25th Wed 10.15am Holy Communion at Heaton House
3.30-3.30pm Crafty Café in Church - Broadwas Church
- 26th Thurs 2.00 - 4.00pm Cuppa & Chat - Cotheridge Church

DO COME FOR TEA, GOOD COMPANY and FUN!
There will be a warm welcome for all from the
Pastoral Team of Martley, Wichenford and the
Lower Teme Valley at a

Tea Party

on Thursday 12th February from 2.30-4pm
at Martley Memorial Hall

Do come and join us!

Revd. Jennifer Whittaker. 01886 833897

Nora Parsons Centre

The Committee are delighted to announce that the Christmas Fair held on 22nd December raised £2,350.00. This was the result of a monumental effort by the Volunteers and the amazing generosity of all our supporters. The sum raised will contribute not only to our weekly meetings, but to the funding of our annual outing, the exercise lady's regular visits, the wonderful singalongs provided by Anthony, visits by the Chiropodist and the other extra treats supplied throughout the year. With the rising costs that everyone is facing we appreciate everyone's efforts to enable us to keep offering this service to the Community.

We are also extremely grateful to the local Parish Councils who offer support through an annual grant and to other local organisations and individuals, including our Patron Dame Harriett Baldwin, who are kind enough to donate to this local charity supporting those who are lonely and enjoy company, those who struggle on their own as well as some who are becoming forgetful. As well as supporting its members it enables their carers to have a short break one day each week which is equally valuable.

So, an enormous thank you to everyone who contributed in any way at all,

Thank you!

Please continue to bear in mind that we are always ready to welcome new volunteers to support our amazing ladies as well as officers for our Trustees/Committee.

With every good wish,

Jennifer

(Chair, Nora Parsons' Centre)

Broadwas & Cotheridge Parish Council

The Parish Council held its first meeting of 2026 at St Leonards on the 7th January. (A change in venue as the floor was being renewed in Broadwas Village Hall).

The meeting set the precept for the new financial year (2026/27) and its budget. The rise to the precept has again been kept to an absolute minimum, and we continue to slowly reduce the amount of unreserved funds held by the Council in line with advise provided by auditors in the past. This has meant we have been able to largely absorb rising costs, whilst fulfilling our obligations to maintain Berryfields Recreation area and BroadGreen SSSI. Once accepted by MHDC the details will be on the website.

A number of residents from the Berryfields estate were welcomed to the meeting, so that the Parish Council could listen to and better understand the views that had been submitted, regarding the proposals enabled by the conditional offer of a grant from the MHDC Legacy Fund.

As a result the Parish Council in finalising the main elements of the project, subject to the completion of compliance, decided to drop the proposal to install an eco friendly waterless WC. The other elements (resurfacing of the car park, replacement of fencing, removal of container, installation of new seating areas and the replacement of the decommissioned item of play equipment, as well as associated landscaping and replacement of the notice board were all agreed. The Council now needs to submit its preferred quotes to the fund in order to hopefully receive the unconditional offer. The Parish Council will then make a formal resolution to release its contribution.

The Parish Council also resolved to continue to look at the longer term future of Berryfields in order to ensure that the ongoing investment is commensurate with its use by parishioners.

Work continues on the review of the Neighbourhood Development Plan, and it is hoped that councillors will be able to consider a draft

version at the next meeting on the 11th of February. There will be then be an open meeting to provide parishioners with the opportunity to contribute.

The County Council has granted a licence for the installation of a dog waste bin in Cotheridge and this should be installed by the end of March. The new bin on Stoney Ley is being well used and we are closely monitoring this in conjunction with MHDC who empty it on our behalf. Sadly it remains the case that there are still some dog owners who choose to disregard their responsibility to clear up after their dogs, or as in the case of Berryfields ignore the fact that dogs are not permitted.

The County Councillor (Mel Fordington), the District Councillor (Barbara Jones Williams) and parish Councillors continue to press the County Council to meet. The County Council have agreed to share recent Road Study they conducted, and we are led to believe that they are intending to replace some signage and white lines. It will be helpful to see this study, though it remains surprising that such a study was undertaken without consulting the Parish Council.

It remains the case that the Parish Council has as yet to feel that the County Council has fully considered our concerns and proposals or indeed is taking these seriously.

There have been a couple of reports recently of fly tipping, so if you come across this please report this to the District Council https://swick.malvern hills.gov.uk/cepoformsmhdc/choose_flytip_or_litter.jsp

If you can let the Clerk know as well this is always helpful as it means we can keep any eye on the problem and work with MHDC.

Finally the Council received the annual inspection report for the play and adult activity equipment at Berryfields. This was a positive report and it was agreed to implement the actions identified.

Richard Burrows (Chair) on behalf of the Parish Council

Village Information

Church Officials:

Team Rector - Rev Anne Potter 01886 832355
Assistant Priest - Rev Jennifer Whittaker 01886 833897
Churchwardens – Lower Teme Valley Parish
Rob Pearce 01886 821959
Peter Walker 01886 822137

Parish Councils

Broadwas & Cotheridge : **www.broadwascotheridge-pc.gov.uk**
Chairman – Richard Burrows
Clerk – Email : clerk@broadwascotheridge-pc.gov.uk
Knightwick & Doddenham
Clerk – Richard Timney 07515881231
Email : richardtimney@yahoo.com

Village Hall - Broadwas Georgina Tabberer, Chair,

Email : **Broadwasvillagehall@outlook.com**

Clubs and Societies

Broadwas Sports Assoc. Sec. - David Creed-Newton - 01886 880534
davidcreednewton@btinternet.com
Croquet Club – John Guy 01905 748192
Royal British Legion – Sue Ganderton 01905 422711

Schools:

Broadwas C of E Primary School - Secretary 01886 821347
Bumblebees : Pre-school/Out-of-School Care 07817637241

Community Website - www.broadwas-cotheridge.com

Footprints Production Team

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